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1996 GOVERNOR'S HOME TOWN AWARDS PROGRAM

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Dear Community Leader/Volunteer:

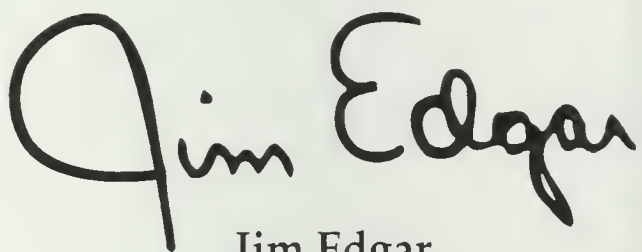
Everyday throughout Illinois, citizens are working voluntarily to improve the communities in which they live. In doing so, they are combining talents and forming effective partnerships with local governments, businesses, labor, voluntary organizations and individual citizens.

Our Home Town Awards Program, in its fifteenth year, honors communities and volunteers which have planned and implemented successful projects to meet community needs.

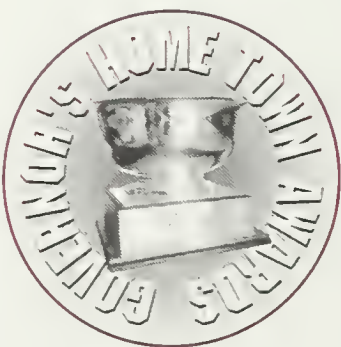
This brochure tells you more about the program and how to apply for a Home Town Award.

I am proud of our Illinois hometowns. I encourage you to participate in this year's Home Town Awards Program.

Sincerely,

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jim Edgar". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of "Jim" and "Edgar" being capitalized and prominent.

Jim Edgar
GOVERNOR



1996 GOVERNOR'S HOME TOWN AWARDS PROGRAM

In many Illinois communities, citizens have been organizing to contribute to their town's economic progress and quality of life. By taking the initiative on a project, mobilizing volunteers and raising funds, they have successfully addressed local needs in a time of reduced public resources. These volunteer projects often have the collective involvement of many such as local governments, business and industry, private, civic and community based organizations and individuals that donate time, materials, funds and expertise.

WHY HOME TOWN AWARDS?

The Governor's Home Town Awards Program gives formal recognition to outstanding community volunteer projects. This program is administered by the Illinois Department of Commerce and Community Affairs in close cooperation with the Lieutenant Governor's Office.

HOW CAN I SUBMIT A PROJECT?

It's simple. Contact the Illinois Department of Commerce and Community Affairs for an application. Use the attached application request card. The application can be submitted by a variety of community representatives such as a local government, a community organization, a local chamber of commerce, a community action agency, an area agency on aging, a local job training agency, etc.

Once the department receives the completed application, the projects will be divided into population categories. Impartial teams of judges will then evaluate the projects.

The Governor's Home Town Awards Banquet held in June will recognize the winners in each program category, along with the grand prize Governor's Cup winner.

All Home Town Awards entry applications must be completed and sent to the Illinois Department of Commerce and Community Affairs postmarked no later than February 23, 1996.

WHAT ARE THE PROGRAM CATEGORIES?

Home Town Awards will be given in four program categories:

- ❑ **GENERAL CATEGORY**
Volunteer projects that have made outstanding contributions to the community's overall improvement and quality of life.
- ❑ **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CATEGORY**
Community economic development projects that have used volunteers.
- ❑ **YOUTH INVOLVEMENT CATEGORY**
Community projects that have been selected, planned and conducted by the community's youth, and/or that directly benefit youth.
- ❑ **SENIOR CITIZEN INVOLVEMENT CATEGORY**
Community projects that have been selected, planned and conducted by senior citizens, and /or that directly benefit senior citizens.



(Clip and Mail)

Please send the 1996 Governor's Home Town Awards Application Guidebook to:

Name _____

Title _____

Address _____

Street

City

State

Zip Code

Phone No. () _____



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AND COMMUNITY AFFAIRS
Attn: Lou Ann Ladage
620 East Adams
Springfield, Illinois 62701



FOR MORE INFORMATION . . .

An application will be sent to your community upon receipt of the attached application request card. Your card should be returned by December 15, 1995.

For more information about the Governor's Home Town Awards Program, contact:

Illinois Department of
Commerce and Community Affairs
620 East Adams
Springfield, Illinois 62701
217/785-6154; TDD, 800/785-6055

GOVERNOR'S HOME TOWN AWARDS PROJECTS

Listed below are examples of projects entered in the program. By capturing the resources available within the community, local volunteers were able to maintain or increase economic progress and the quality of life.

COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT; FIRE HOUSE CONSTRUCTION; PARK CONSTRUCTION; AMBULANCE SERVICE; SENIOR CITIZEN CENTER; PUBLIC POOL REHABILITATION; CHRISTMAS FOOD AND TOY DRIVE; DEVELOPMENT OF A RECREATION COMPLEX; DOWNTOWN REVITALIZATION; CIVIC CENTER CONSTRUCTION; SENIOR CITIZEN TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM; YOUTH PROGRAM; CLEAN-UP/BEAUTIFICATION PROJECTS; BICYCLE SAFETY PROGRAMS; INDUSTRIAL RETENTION PROGRAMS; ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION; HOUSING REHABILITATION; LITERACY COUNCIL; UNEMPLOYMENT SERVICES; ENERGY CONSERVATION PROJECT; CRIMESTOPPER PROGRAM; AND "URBAN PLAYGROUND" FOR AREA YOUTHS.

WINNER

1994 Governor's Cup
Tamms – "Super-Max Prison"

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